

00862.003177



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
SATOSHI NISHIKAWA et al.) Examiner: Thierry L. Pham
Application No.: 09/470,204) Group Art Unit: 2624
Filed: December 22, 1999) Confirmation No.: 5888
For: PRINTING CONTROL SYSTEM)
FOR SEPARATION PRINTING : June 16, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Sir:

This is to provide a statement on the substance of a May 13, 2005, interview between Applicants' below-signed representative and Examiner Thierry L. Pham and Primary Examiner Garcia, in the above-captioned application. Applicants' representative would like to thank the Examiners for the courtesies extended during the interview.

At the interview, the Examiners and Applicants' representative discussed claims 1 and 2. In particular, it was argued that the proposed combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,749,024, 6,104,498, and 5,442,732 to reject claim 1 fail to teach or suggest at least a user input to a paper feed setting screen of a graphical user interface provided by a printer driver to set a separation printing setting and a separation printing order setting. It also was argued that the proposed combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,749,024, 6,104,498, 5,442,732, and 5,282,050 to reject claim 2 failed to teach or suggest a saving state check step of checking whether the printing device is set to a saving state in which a page having no output data is not output, and a saving function invalidating step of invalidating setting of

the saving state when setting of additionally outputting the predetermined medium is detected in a separation printing check step and setting of the saving state is detected in the saving function check step.

Applicants' representative again thanks the Examiners for their consideration and courtesy during the interview.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Didas
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 55,112

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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